

INTRODUCTION:

The **(insert cooperator name)** (Cooperator) and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) desire to enter into this Agreement for the purpose of supporting research to be carried out at ARS and Cooperator facilities; and ARS desires the Cooperator to provide goods and services, including personal services, necessary to carrying out the research of mutual interest within the North Atlantic Area. ARS Research is organized into 22 National Programs. These programs serve to bring coordination, communication and empowerment to the more than 1200 research projects carried out by ARS.

STATEMENT OF MUTUAL INTEREST:

The Cooperator is engaged in and have an independent interest in one or more of the research programs defined below. All parties derive direct benefit to their individual research programs by participating in this arrangement.

- **Animal Production, Product Value and Safety**

<u>Program No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
101	Food Animal Production
103	Animal Health
106	Aquaculture
107	Human Nutrition
108	Food Safety (animal & plant products)

- **Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems**

<u>Program No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
201	Water Quality and Management
202	Soil Resource Management
204	Global Change
205	Rangeland, Pasture and Forages
206	Manure and Byproduct Utilization
207	Integrated Agricultural Systems

- **Crop Production, Product Value and Safety**

<u>Program No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
301	Plant, Microbial, and Insect Genetic Resources, Genomics and Genetic Improvement

302	Plant Biological and Molecular Processes
303	Plant Diseases
304	Crop Protection and Quarantine
305	Crop Production
306	Quality and Utilization of Agricultural Products
307	Bioenergy and Energy Alternatives

RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. The Cooperator Agrees to:

1. Select and administratively supervise (i.e., selection and performance of employees, time and attendance, evaluation, leave approval, administration of employee benefits, etc.) employees used in support of ARS research, provided that ARS concurs that those employees possess the requisite qualifications and background for the duties to be performed.
Acquisition of personal services is limited to:
 - ✓ Laboratory technicians and aides.
 - ✓ Wage-grade support help.
 - ✓ Support professionals who do not perform original research.
 - ✓ Graduate and undergraduate students paid an hourly wage. Fringe benefits may also be reimbursed.
 - ✓ Short-term SYs (90 days or less).
 - ✓ Data entry and clerk-typists required for specific research projects. Cooperator employees cannot be used to perform general office functions or duties.
 - ✓ Seasonal and intermittent workers
 - ✓ Full-Time Temporary requirements (**limited to 4 years in duration**)
2. Provide general support costs to facilitate research activities when ARS employees are located in or contiguous to the Cooperator's facility. This includes:
 - ✓ Facility maintenance services, including janitorial and landscaping.
 - ✓ Security services.
 - ✓ Telephone services - local, long distance **and internet access charges (as applicable).**
 - ✓ Utilities usage. This does not include entering into utility contracts under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 8.300.
 - ✓ Computer time/statistical reporting/user fees.
 - ✓ Reimbursement for manuscript processing (page charges).
 - ✓ Reimbursement for work-related training and travel (including foreign

travel) for Cooperator's employees. The RSA does not authorize the Cooperator to pay travel costs of ARS employees.

- ✓ Reimbursement for work-related seminar/colloquium expenses.
- ✓ Reimbursement for liability insurance purchased to cover employees working under an RSA.
- ✓ Reimbursement for physical exams when Cooperator employees are subjected to hazardous materials as a direct result of RSA assignments.

3. Assign such members of its staff as may be requested by ARS to support research of mutual interest to the Cooperator.

B. ARS Agrees to:

1. Provide technical and scientific direction to the Cooperator's employees in carrying out the objectives of this Agreement.
2. Plan, direct, inspect, and make evaluative recommendations regarding work performance of the Cooperator's employees.
3. To reimburse the Cooperator for Indirect Costs at a rate of **(spell out percent) (____%)** of total direct costs.